

GREG BARTHOLOMEW

The Promise of Liberty

An adaptation of “The New Colossus” by Emma Lazarus

for unison or two-part chorus
with optional descant
and optional piano or guitar accompaniment

BURKE & BAGLEY

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The Promise of Liberty

Greg Bartholomew

Piano

Moderate ♩ = 66

mf

Chords: D, C#m, Bm, D, E7, A

The piano introduction is in 6/8 time, marked 'Moderate' with a tempo of 66 beats per minute. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The piece is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). Above the staff, six guitar chord diagrams are provided: D, C#m, Bm, D, E7, and A.

Unison

Verse 1: *mf*

Winds blow fierce and foul storms rage. Safe shel-ter seems a hope-less dream.

Piano

Chords: A, F#m, E, D, C#m, C#m/E

Verse 1 of the song is in 6/8 time, marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The unison vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The bass line starts with a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The piece is marked 'mf'. Above the unison staff, six guitar chord diagrams are provided: A, F#m, E, D, C#m, and C#m/E.

Uni.

poco rit.

But in the dark_ a pro mise beams, a bea con to a gol - den age.

Chords: D, E9, F#m, E, D, C#m, E, A

The final section of the song is in 6/8 time, marked 'poco rit.' (poco ritardando). The unison vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The bass line starts with a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The piece is marked 'poco rit.'. Above the unison staff, seven guitar chord diagrams are provided: D, E9, F#m, E, D, C#m, and E. The section ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Chorus 1:
a tempo



3

Uni. Give me your tired, your poor, your hud dled mass - es yearn-ing to be free. Give me the

18 F#m C#m E D C#m F#m D C#m D Bm
wretch - ed from your teem-ing shore. Send these, the home - less, tem-pest tossed to me. I lift my

23 A Bm E C#m D C#m Bm D E7 A
lamp be-side the gol-den door. I lift my lamp be-side the gol - den door.

Verse 2:

29



Uni. *p* So cries the strong he - ro - ic wo - man, *2* rais - ing her arm to light the way.

poco rit.

33

Uni.

Her words ring out from day to day, to greet each wave of im - mi - grants.

D E⁹ F[#]m E D C[#]m E A

Chorus 2 & 3:

2. *mp* a tempo 3. *p*

Part 1

Optional Part 2

Piano

Give me your tired, your poor, your hud dled mass - es yearn-ing to be free. Give me the

F[#]m A D E⁷ A Dmaj⁷

42

Pt.1

Pt.2

wretch - ed from your teem-ing shore. Send these, the home - less, tem-pest tossed to me. I lift my

F[#]m C[#]m E D C[#]m F[#]m D C[#]m D Bm

47

A Bm E C#m D C#m Bm D E7 A

Pt.1 lamp be-side the gol-den door. I lift my lamp be-side the gol - den door.____

Pt.2 lamp be-side the gol-den door. I lift my lamp be-side the gol - den door.____

1.

A F#m E D C#m C#m/E

Verse 3:

53 *mf*

Uni. Some crossed the sea in a temp - est squall. More came by land up the hem - i sphere.

Back to page 4
Chorus 3

57

D E9 F#m E D C#m E A

Uni. Still there's room for ev - ry-one here. The pro mise of li - ber - ty wel - comes all.

poco rit.

2.

**Verse 4:**

77

mf

Uni.

Winds still blow and storms still threat-en the shel-ter we build in this new land.

poco rit.

Uni.

But here we weave a fa-bric grand, made strong from man - y co - lored threads.

Chorus 4:

Conductor may invite audience to join in the 4th chorus

a tempoOptional
Descant

Give me your tired, your poor, your hud dled mass - es yearn-ing to be free. Give me the

Part 1

Give me your tired, your poor, your hud dled mass - es yearn-ing to be free. Give me the

Optional
Part 2

Give me your tired, your poor, your hud dled mass - es yearn-ing to be free. Give me the

Piano

Piano accompaniment for the chorus section.

90

Desc. *wretch - ed from your teem-ing shore. Send them to me.*

Pt.1 *wretch - ed from your teem-ing shore. Send these, the home - less, tem-pest tossed to me. I lift my*

Pt.2 *wretch - ed from your teem-ing shore. Send these, the home - less, tem-pest tossed to me. I lift my*

Chords: F#m, C#m, E, D, C#m, F#m, D, C#m, D, Bm

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95

Desc. *I lift my lamp be - side the gol-den door, be-side the gol - den door.*

Pt.1 *lamp be-side the gold-en door. I lift my lamp be side the gold - en door.*

Pt.2 *lamp be-side the gold-en door. I lift my lamp be side the gold - en door.*

Chords: A, Bm, E, C#m, D, C#m, Bm, C#m, D, E7, A

Tempo/Expression: *rit.*, *mp*, *f*

The Promise of Liberty

Winds blow fierce and foul storms rage.
Safe shelter seems a hopeless dream.
But in the dark a promise beams,
a beacon to a golden age.

[Chorus] "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.
Give me the wretched from your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

So cries the strong heroic woman,
raising her arm to light the way.
Her words ring out from day to day
to greet each wave of immigrants. [Repeat chorus]

Some crossed the sea in a tempest squall.
More came by land up the hemisphere.
Still there's room for everyone here.
The promise of liberty welcomes all. [Repeat chorus]

Winds still blow and storms still threaten
the shelter we build in this new land.
But here we weave a fabric grand
Made strong from many colored threads. [Repeat chorus]

Duration: 3 minutes

The text is by the composer. The chorus is adapted from the sonnet, "The New Colossus," by Emma Lazarus (1883), written to raise money for the construction of the Statue of Liberty's pedestal. Since 1945, her poem has graced the entrance to the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor.

The piece is designed for maximum flexibility and may be sung unaccompanied or with piano or guitar accompaniment. The verses are all to be sung in unison. Repeats of the chorus may be sung in unison or in 2-part harmony. There is an optional descant for the final time through the chorus. The conductor may also invite the audience to join in the final chorus.

For information about composer Greg Bartholomew, visit www.gregbartholomew.com.

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